Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

F

Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

VOLUME 59 NUMBER 18

ALMONDS (Mediterranean Basin) (Page 431)

RAISINS (Foreign Production) (Page 435)

CONTENTS

Page

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY AND SUPPLIES

Use of Insecticides Increasing in Venezuela........... 453
Limited Use of Farm Machinery in Egypt................ 454
Little Use of Pesticides in Iran...................... 455
Need For Tractors in Western India Increasing......... 455

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

French Cotton Industry Faces Uncertain Outlook........ 452
Cotton-Price Quotations on Foreign Markets............ 451

FATS AND OILS

U. S. Oils in Canadian Margarine...................... 443
Canada's Oilseed Production Decreases Sharply......... 444
Iran's Oilseed Output Shows Slight Increase........... 446
Sweden Expects to Achieve Self-Sufficiency in Linseed Oil... 447
Swiss Import Controls on Fats and Oils Abrogated...... 447

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

1949 Mediterranean Basis Almond Production Larger..... 431
1949 Foreign Raisin Production Below Average.......... 435

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

Argentine Wheat Acreage Larger; Corn, Oats Plantings Smaller.. 448
Australian Wheat Outlook Favorable.................... 449
British Honduras Increases Rice Acreage............... 450
Iran's Rice Production Remains Steady................. 450
Guatemala's Rice Production Balances Consumption...... 450

TOBACCO

Algeria's 1949 Tobacco Production Lower, Exports Up... 439
Argentina's Tobacco Production and Consumption Increase.. 439
Spain's Tobacco Production Declines; Imports Rise..... 440

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

Brazil's Exportable Supply of Coffee Low.............. 441
Smaller Cacao Output Forecast for Gold Coast; Little Change in Ivory Coast's Production.................. 442
Spanish Guinea's 1949 Cacao Output Higher............. 442

FOR RELEASE

MONDAY

OCTOBER 31, 1949

NOV 1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

LATE NEWS

Cuba has ratified the International Wheat Agreement and has deposited its instruments of acceptance, effective October 27, with the United States Department of State. Guaranteed purchases by Cuba amount to 7,422,229 bushels of wheat and wheat flour (grain equivalent) for each of the 4 crop years from 1949-50 to 1952-53. The number of importing countries now participating in the Agreement totals 28.

- - - - -

The spot price of cashew nuts in Bombay increased from Rs. 400 to 525, or 32 percent, following devaluation. It is uncertain, however, whether this price can be maintained, since cashews are a luxury product on the United States market. The actual devaluation of Indian currency amounted to 30.5 percent.

- - - - -

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to those needing the information it contains in farming, business, and professional operations. Issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

1949 MEDITERRANEAN BASIN ALMOND PRODUCTION ESTIMATE LARGER 1/

The 1949 preliminary estimate of shelled almond production in the 6 leading foreign commercial-producing countries is 61,400 short tons (revised) compared with 54,000 tons (revised) in 1948 and 77,500 tons in 1947. The estimate is 13 percent below the 5-year (1943-47) average of 70,500 tons and 9 percent below the 10-year (1938-47) average of 67,600 tons. The estimate shows a small increase over the forecast made in July because of better harvests in Italy and Portugal than had been anticipated earlier in the season. Small declines from the forecast were reported for French Morocco and Iran. In the United States the October 1 forecast for California is 42,200 short tons, unshelled basis, the largest crop on record.

Growing conditions during the season ran from near perfect in Portugal to very poor in France and Sicily. In French Morocco and Spain, conditions were spotty, depending on the area. The quality in Spain, Portugal, and most sections of Italy was good. In France and French Morocco the quality is off. The quantity of small sized kernels available in Portugal and Spain is about average, while there are relatively few new-crop small sized kernels available in Sicily and below-average tonnages of this type in the Bari district of Italy. The supply of small sized kernels available in the Mediterranean Basin is ample to satisfy any likely demand that will develop this season. Harvesting was accomplished in all countries with ample supply of labor and transportation.

The 1948-49 marketing season came to a close in August with an estimated 11,200 tons of shelled nuts still on hand from the 1948 harvest or about 21 percent of the crop. Italy is reported to have had 8,000 tons, Spain 3,000 tons, and Portugal 200. There is some doubt as to the carry-over in Spain; however, it appears likely that only 3,000 tons can be considered of grade and quality readily acceptable in export markets. A considerable tonnage of low grade and old-crop nuts has been diverted to oil mills in recent months. Spain came nearer disposing of an entire crop during the season just closed than at any time in recent years. The carry-over and new-crop total 72,600 short tons, which is slightly in excess of the 5-year (1943-47) average production but somewhat under the available supply at the start of last season. At the start of the 1948-49 season the carry-over was estimated at 32,000 tons and the new crop at 54,000 tons, making the total available supply 86,000 tons. On the basis of available information, the foreign supply at present is 16 percent below that of last season. The United States crop this year is 24 percent above that of last year, which makes the world supply about average.

1/ A more extensive statement may be obtained from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

ALMONDS, SHELLED: Estimated commercial production in specified countries, 1949 with comparisons

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	France	French Morocco	Iran	Italy	Portugal	Spain	Foreign total	United States unshelled
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average								
1943-47	800	1,700	6,500	34,800	2,200	24,500	70,500	27,100
1938-47	700	2,200	7,100	30,800	2,600	24,200	67,600	21,400
Annual								
1944	1,000	600	5,300	22,700	1,700	20,900	52,200	24,000
1945	500	3,300	6,600	50,600	2,300	26,400	89,700	27,200
1946	700	2,400	7,700	33,000	3,700	24,200	71,700	37,300
1947	1,000	1,200	6,000	46,200	1,100	22,000	77,500	29,200
1948 1/	1,100	3,300	2/7,000	18,700	2,900	21,000	2/54,000	2/ 34,000
1949 1/	300	2/1,900	2/7,700	2/22,000	2/4,200	25,300	2/61,400	2/ 42,200

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Revised.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. **Prepared or estimated on the** basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

The 1948-49 export season abroad, while still far from a normal prewar year for most countries, nevertheless, was a good one, generally speaking. The removal of import restrictions on Mediterranean nuts by the British in May turned what otherwise might have been a very poor year into a fairly good one. The minor producing countries were able to dispose of practically all of their almonds. Italy and Spain, the two major producers, did very well. Official export statistics are not available for these countries but, on the basis of trade estimates and other indications, some 74,800 tons were disposed of in export and domestic channels. It is believed exports accounted for at least 40,000 tons.

The United Kingdom was by far the largest buyer of almonds during the year. There were substantial exports to France, Belgium, Switzerland, and the Scandinavian countries. A small start was made during the season toward revival of the important German trade. India was a good market, especially for Italy and Iran. The South American countries acquired their usual small tonnages. The United States imports from Mediterranean countries was off at 4,878 tons compared with 6,135 the previous season. Italy supplied the United States with 4,370 tons of the total. The exportation of Spanish nuts to the United States ceased after October because of countervailing duties imposed by the United States. The bulk of the United States imports were small sized kernels and speciality types.

The outlook for the 1949-50 export season is at present somewhat obscured because of the recent devaluation of the British pound and a long list of other currencies. Before devaluation, exporters in Italy and Spain looked forward to a considerable business with the United Kingdom, following the same general lines of that of the last half of the previous season. The re-entry of the German buyers in Italy gave considerable hope to exporters. The large United States crop was expected to reduce considerably purchases abroad. Some competition is expected from the record-breaking Turkish filbert crop, currently being offered at attractive prices.

The devaluation of the pound did not come as a surprise to most exporters, although the large number of countries which also devalued their currencies did surprise many. The devaluation brought an almost complete standstill to the British purchases in Italy and Spain. It also affected purchases by other areas that had devalued. The devaluation has caused the Spanish Government to start a complete examination of its entire price structure on export and import commodities with a view of coming out with prices that will be competitive with those of other countries producing the same items. A whole new series of special exchange rates is being formulated and is being released gradually. Exporters of almonds will receive 19.71 pesetas per U. S. dollar. In Italy the first effects of the devaluation were to lower prices by an estimated 5 percent, but the buying activity of the Germans soon brought

UNITED STATES: Imports for consumption of shelled and unshelled almonds, from specified countries, 1948-49, with comparisons,

Season, September through August

Year	French Morocco	Italy	Portugal	Spain	Other countries	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Shelled						
Average:						
1944/45-1948/49	21	2,422	479	3,642	51	6,615
1939/40-1948/49	16	1,257	517	2,578	175	4,543
Annual:						
1943-44	0	0	1,271	6,930	53	8,254
1944-45	15	0	1,218	8,061	31	9,325
1945-46	28	1,508	688	7,140	73	9,437
1946-47	34	2,054	187	950	76	3,301
1947-48	27	4,179	98	1,805	26	6,135
1948-49	0	4,370	206	255	47	4,878
Unshelled						
Average						
1944/45-1948/49	0	3	2	116	3	124
1939/40-1948/49	0	2	3	100	1	106
Annual:						
1943-44	0	0	14	425	0	439
1944-45	0	0	11	170	0	181
1945-46	0	0	0	263	5	268
1946-47	0	6	0	145	6	157
1947-48	0	9	0	0	1/	9
1948-49	0	2	0	0	1	3

1/ Less than one-half ton.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

strength into the market and a recovery of prices. The Italian Government has not yet devalued the lire. However, according to some exporters, unless the lire is devalued, exports to the United Kingdom will be difficult, if not impossible. On the basis of information now available, it appears likely that satisfactory relationships will be worked out between the various currencies before the end of the year and that movement in volume of almonds into international trade channels will be resumed by January.

1949 FOREIGN RAISIN PRODUCTION BELOW AVERAGE 1/

The 1949 preliminary estimate of raisin production outside of the United States is 196,200 short tons compared with 238,400 tons in 1948 (revised) and 158,700 tons in 1947 (revised). The present estimate is 4 percent below the 5-year (1943-47) average of 204,800 tons and 8 percent below the 10-year (1938-47) average of 213,400 tons.

The official estimate of the California pack is not yet available, however, according to preliminary trade indications it is expected to be appreciably larger than last year. If the California pack is as large as now seems probable, the 1949 world raisin pack will be from 2 percent to 5 percent larger than that of 1948, but slightly below average. The United States' pack will be well over half the world total. In 1948 the United States pack represented 48 percent of the world total and in 1947 it was 66 percent.

Large declines in raisin production from the previous season are recorded in Australia, Turkey and Iran. Small declines from last year are reported for Argentina, and the Union of South Africa. The production of currants is the largest since 1941. The sharp decline in Australia is primarily the result of adverse weather at harvest. Modest increases in production are reported for Greece and Spain.

The 1948-49 marketing season in the foreign countries closed in August with almost a complete sell out of 1948 pack fruit. Iran was the only country with a carry-over. This was estimated at 5,500 tons. The disposal of the 1948 pack did not entirely suit producers in most countries and returns to growers were off from the previous year. The United Kingdom was the largest buyer of foreign raisins. The market sometime dragged and sometime hustled with activity. Official export statistics for the 8 producing countries are not available. However, on basis of trade and other information it appears about 164,000 tons moved into international trade during the season. This represents about 69 percent of the 1948 pack.

1/ A more extensive statement may be obtained from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

RAISINS: Estimated world commercial production, 1948 with comparisons
(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Argentina	Australia Lexias	Australia Sultanas	Chile	Greece	Iran
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average						
1943-47	5,700	9,400	58,300	1,300	18,400	32,500
1938-47	5,400	9,700	60,600	1,600	23,500	33,500
Annual						
1944	7,100	12,000	76,400	900	17,600	33,000
1945	3,600	9,800	46,700	900	9,400	33,000
1946	4,400	7,900	57,500	1,300	20,900	35,800
1947	5,000	6,000	44,500	1,000	26,400	22,000
1948 2/	1/ 7,200	5,800	64,300	700	25,300	41,800
1949 2/	6,000	5,600	38,500	900	31,900	29,700

Year	Spain	Turkey (Smyrna)	Union of South Africa	Foreign total	United States	Total all
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average						
1943-47	9,300	58,300	11,600	204,800	289,500	494,300
1938-47	9,400	58,300	11,400	213,400	261,600	475,000
Annual						
1944	10,400	49,500	12,200	219,100	309,500	528,600
1945	8,600	71,500	11,500	195,000	241,000	436,000
1946	6,100	60,500	12,300	206,700	193,000	399,700
1947	11,300	1/ 33,000	9,500	1/ 158,700	303,000	1/461,700
1948 2/	1/ 6,900	77,000	9,400	1/ 238,400	223,000	1/461,400
1949 2/	9,600	66,000	8,000	196,200	3/	

CURRANTS: Estimated world commercial production, 1948 with comparisons
(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Australia	Greece	South Africa	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average				
1943-47	20,100	57,700	1,100	78,900
1938-47	22,100	82,500	1,000	105,600
Annual				
1944	28,400	55,000	1,100	84,500
1945	19,700	41,800	1,100	62,600
1946	15,700	62,200	1,200	79,100
1947	12,700	84,500	1,000	98,200
1948 2/	19,300	1/ 77,000	1,100	1/ 97,400
1949 2/	20,100	94,600	1,000	115,700

1/ Revised 2/ Preliminary 3/ Not yet available

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States foreign service officers, results of office research or other information.

UNITED STATES: Exports of raisins to specified countries, 1948-49 with comparisons

(Crop year basis, September-August)

Country of destination	Average 1944/45-1948/49	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Austria	1,191	0	0	1/	2,740	3,215
Belgium	2,694	1,784	1,209	657	6,497	3,324
Denmark	42	0	0	1	56	154
France	153	192	1	6	530	36
Germany	16,930	0	29	0	79,465	5,158
Ireland	1,536	0	2,211	2,673	0	2,798
Netherlands	906	2,975	918	257	198	181
Norway	267	1,326	0	1/	9	1
Poland	41	0	1/	1/	202	1
Sweden	584	1/	526	2,390	4	0
United Kingdom	28,759	68,284	25,751	25,475	2,035	22,252
Other Europe	885	1,503	343	573	1,222	730
Total Europe	53,988	76,064	30,988	32,032	92,958	37,900
Canada	11,212	15,777	11,317	220	21,185	7,560
All other countries	7,106	4,522	7,084	8,255	9,404	6,266
Total	72,306	96,363	49,389	40,507	123,547	51,726

1/ Less than one-half ton.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

The 1949-50 season as far as Turkey is concerned, probably will be the best in the postwar period as sales have been exceptionally heavy and the entire available exportable surplus is expected to be sold before the end of the year. Australia and the Union of South Africa have disposed of their packs as have Argentina and Chile. The British devaluation of the pound has had some slowing effect on sales in other countries, especially Greece. The German entry into the foreign raisin markets for the first time in the postwar period has brought considerable activity in the markets. The Iranian market has been very slow because of the lack of orders from India. The Spanish raisin market has been slow pending a clarification of price and exchange matters to be announced by the Government. On the basis of information now at hand, it appears likely that this season's foreign raisin production will be sold before new-crop raisins appear on the market next fall.

Currants

The 1949 preliminary estimate of currant production in Australia, Greece, and the Union of South Africa is 115,700 tons compared with 97,400 tons in 1948 (revised) and 98,200 tons in 1947. The estimate is 47 percent above the 5-year (1943-47) average of 78,900 tons and 10 percent before the 10-year (1938-47) average of 105,600 tons. The estimate is the largest for this group of countries since 1941. The Australian production was slightly below the forecast of last February due to weather damage at harvest.

The disposal of the Australian currant pack is covered under the long-term purchase agreement between the United Kingdom and Australia. The total available exportable surplus is divided among the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, and other British areas. During the first 3 months of the 1949 season, a total of 62,300 tons of currants were exported of which the United Kingdom purchased 5,943 tons and Canada, 159 tons. By September 1, the remaining tonnage had been lifted and, for all practical purposes, the currant deal was closed for the year. Australian growers view with some alarm the steady increase in production in Greece which they feel will react unfavorably on their exports to the United Kingdom. The entire Union of South African pack was disposed of domestically except for a few small exports. The 1948-49 export season ended in Greece with exports totaling 39,770 short tons, of which the United Kingdom purchased 25,907 tons and Holland, 5,361 tons. Germany purchased Greek currants for the first time since the end of World War II. The German purchases totaled 1,833 tons. About 43,000 tons were used in industrial plants and the balance in domestic markets. The tonnage used in industrial plants included carry-over from the previous year.

The 1949 crop suffered some damage in late August from wind and rains. Some fruit is reported to be of very poor quality and the estimate of production may be lowered. The export prospects appear good from all indications available at this time. An announcement in London on September 21, after devaluation, indicated that the United Kingdom would purchase about 44,800 short tons, with delivery to be completed before January 15, 1950. The announced price was £65 per ton (about U.S. $182.00). The balance of the exportable surplus is expected to be sold to France, Holland, Germany, and other weston European countries. Exporters feel confident that the entire pack will be disposed of before the 1950 harvest.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

TOBACCO

ALGERIA'S 1949 TOBACCO PRODUCTION LOWER, EXPORTS UP

Algeria's 1949 tobacco crop is estimated at about 12 percent below the 1948 harvest, according to the American Consulate General in Algiers. Leaf exports during the first 6 months of 1949 were 35 percent above the same period of 1948.

The 1949 tobacco crop is estimated at 37.7 million pounds, compared with 43 million pounds in 1948 and 35.6 million pounds in 1947. The decline in production in 1949 is reported to be due to spring floods and abnormally high temperatures during the summer months which resulted in a lower yield per acre.

Exports of leaf during the 6 months ending June 30, 1949 totaled 10.4 million pounds, or a monthly average of about 1.7 million pounds. This compares with exports of 7.7 million pounds, or a monthly average of 1.3 million pounds during the first 6 months of 1948, and a total of 17.8 million pounds, or a monthly average of 1.5 million pounds during the calendar year 1948. France was the most important outlet for Algeria's leaf during the January-June 1949 period, taking 4.2 million pounds, or about 40 percent of the country's total leaf exports. Most of the remaining exports went to French Colonies.

The exports of manufactured tobacco products also increased in 1949. Cigarette exports during the first 6 months of 1949 totaled 5.3 million pounds as compared with 4.2 million pounds during the same period of 1948. In addition to cigarettes, Algeria exported 181,000 pounds of pipe tobacco and 794,000 cigars during the 6 months ending June 30, 1949. Practically all shipments of tobacco products were destined for other French Colonies.

ARGENTINA'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION INCREASE

Argentina's 1948-49 acreage and production of tobacco and 1948 consumption of leaf in the manufacture of products increased over the previous year, according to the American Embassy in Buenos Aires. The area planted to tobacco in 1949-50 is expected to be about 11 percent above the 1948-49 harvested acreage.

The country's 1948-49 tobacco production is estimated at 59.5 million pounds from about 51,150 acres, as compared with 47.4 million pounds from 42,000 acres in 1947-48 and an annual average of 47.7 million pounds from about 52,000 acres during the previous 5-years, 1942-43 through 1946-47.

The area to be planted to tobacco in 1949-50 is unofficially forecast at 56,800 acres. If this acreage materializes and normal yields are obtained, a record crop of about 66 million pounds will be produced. About 10,000 acres are expected to be planted to flue-cured tobacco in 1949-50, compared with 7,400 acres in 1948-49. Plantings of this type are being increased largely as a result of restrictions placed on the importation of United States leaf.

A total of 57.5 million pounds of tobacco leaf was consumed by Argentine tobacco factories in 1948. This compares with 55.3 million pounds in 1947, about 54.0 million pounds in 1946 and 50.4 million pounds in 1945. Domestic leaf accounted for 62 percent of total consumption in 1948, compared with 66 percent in each of the three previous years.

ARGENTINA: Factory consumption of leaf tobacco in the manufacture of products, 1948 with comparisons

Year	Domestic leaf	Imported leaf, by country of origin			Total
		United States	Brazil	Other	
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1945	33.6	2.5	11.2	3.1	50.4
1946	35.8	2.9	12.5	2.8	54.0
1947	36.9	3.9	12.7	1.8	55.3
1948	35.8	4.7	14.7	2.3	57.5

Official sources.

SPAIN'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION DECLINES; IMPORTS RISE

Spain's 1949 production of leaf tobacco is estimated at 7 percent below the 1948 harvest, according to the American Embassy in Madrid. Imports of leaf during the first 5 months of 1949 were 93 percent above the same period of 1948.

The country's 1949 production of leaf tobacco is unofficially estimated at 28.7 million pounds, compared with 30.9 million pounds in 1948 and about 29 million pounds in 1947. The decline in production in 1949 is attributed to unfavorable weather during the growing season, as the acreage planted to tobacco is believed to be about the same as in 1948.

Imports of leaf during the 5 months ending May 31, 1949 totaled 24.9 million pounds, or a monthly average of about 5 million pounds. This compares with imports of 12.9 million pounds, or a monthly average of 2.6 million pounds during the first 5 months of 1948, and a total of 32.4 million pounds, or a monthly average of 2.7 million pounds during the calendar year 1948. Brazil was the principal source of leaf during the January-May 1949 period and imports from that country accounted for 41 percent of the total. Other important source of leaf during 1949 include the Philippine Republic, Cuba, Paraguay and the Dominican Republic.

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

BRAZIL'S EXPORTABLE SUPPLY OF COFFEE LOW

Brazil's exportable supply of coffee for the last 9 months of the 1949-50 marketing year (July-June) is estimated at approximately 14 million bags, according to the American Embassy in Rio de Janeiro. If normal port working stocks of 3,000,000 bags are maintained actual exports from October 1, 1949 to June 30, 1950 will drop to about 11,000,000 bags from exports of 13,470,000 bags during the corresponding period of 1948-49.

Total supplies available for export as of September 1 are calculated as follows:

Total visible stocks, Sept. 1, 1949....	8,785,239
Estimated farm despatches to ports Sept. 1, 1949 to June 30, 1950.......	8,698,566
Total supply available for export, port consumption, and coast-wise shipments............................	17,483,805
Estimated port consumption and coast-wise shipments, Sept. 1, 1949 to June 30, 1950..	1,333,000
Available for export.....................	16,150,805

The total visible stocks on September 1, 1949 were composed of interior stocks of 5,546,970 bags and port stocks of 3,238,269 bags. Interior stocks were made up of 3,154,923 bags from the 1949 harvest, 2,374,842 bags from the 1948 harvest, and 17,205 bags from earlier harvests. Practically all of the old-crop coffee formerly held by the National Coffee Department had been exported or delivered to local roasters by the end of August 1949.

The official National Coffee Department estimate of the total quantity of coffee available for shipment to ports from the 1949 harvest remains unchanged at 14,413,620 bags. Of this quantity, approximately 1,600,000 bags are expected to be consumed in port cities or shipped coastwise to other cities in Brazil for consumption, leaving only about 12,800,000 bags available for export.

Exports during August reached 1,864,361 bags bringing total exports for the first two months of the 1949-50 marketing year to 3,556,256 bags. During the same period of 1948, exports amounted to 2,683,411 bags. Shipments continued at a heavy rate during September. It was reported unofficially that exports during the first 24 days of September exceeded 1,750,000 bags, and it is considered likely that the total for the month exceeded 2 million bags. If so, it would bring the total available exportable supply for the balance of the 1949-50 marketing year down to around 14,000,000 bags. However, it is unlikely that this amount will be exported, as normally about 3,000,000 bags are maintained as port working stocks.

SMALLER CACAO OUTPUT FORECAST FOR GOLD COAST; LITTLE CHANGE IN IVORY COAST'S PRODUCTION

Cacao production in 1949-50 has been forecast at 540 million pounds for the Gold Coast and 112 million pounds for the Ivory Coast, according to a notably reliable trade source.

This represents a substantial reduction from the bumper crop produced in the Gold Coast in 1948-49. The Gold Coast Cocoa Marketing Board announced that as of September 15 it had purchased 602,674,000 pounds of cacao beans from the 1948-49 main crop and 20,478,000 pounds from the 1948-49 light crop or a total of 623,152,000 pounds. Except for the unusually large 1948-49 crop, postwar cacao production in the Gold Coast has dropped considerably below the annual average prewar (1935-39) output of 609,363,000 pounds. The Gold Coast produced 469,000,000 pounds in 1945-46, 430,304,000 in 1946-47, and 467,600,000 in 1947-48.

The latest available estimate places the Ivory Coast's 1948-49 harvest at 110,230,000 pounds. This is approximately the same as the annual average prewar production of 109,937,000 pounds, and substantially higher than either the 1946-47 output of 79,365,000 pounds or the 1947-48 outturn of about 75,000,000 pounds.

SPANISH GUINEA'S 1949 CACAO OUTPUT HIGHER

Spanish Guinea's 1949 cacao outturn (harvested from July to September) is estimated by the local trade at roughly 35 million pounds, of which Fernando Po produced 29 million pounds and Rio Muni the balance, according to the American Consulate General in Barcelona. This compares with an output of about 31 million pounds in 1948, a revised estimate of 37 million pounds in 1947, and an annual average prewar (1935-39) harvest of 25 million pounds.

Spain consumed the entire 1948 cacao output of Spanish Guinea, but exporters expect that about 9 million pounds of the 1949 production will be shipped to the United States. However, authorization to export cacao beans must be obtained from the Spanish Government, and no indication has been received as yet that this authorization will be made.

The United States imported about 5.1 million pounds of cacao beans from Spanish Guinea in 1948 and 1.5 million pounds in 1947. Since April 1948, no cacao beans from Spanish Guinea have been available for world trade.

FATS AND OILS

UNITED STATES OILS IN CANADIAN MARGARINE 1/

Virtually all oils used in Canada's new margarine industry are imported, mainly from the United States. Thus a new market outlet for United States products has developed almost overnight. Starting in January this year from no production at all, Canada's margarine output rose rapidly to an average of 6.75 million pounds a month for the March-September period. This is at the rate of 81 million pounds a year, requiring about 65 million pounds of refined fats ans oils.

Of the 5,685,000 pounds of various oils used by Canadian margarine plants in August, for example, 60.5 percent was cottonseed oil, and 23.1 percent was soybean oil. The remaining 16.4 percent was coconut oil, peanut oil, marine oils, palm oils and oleo oil, in that order of diminishing importance. Except for a little marine oil used by one manufacturer in Newfoundland, all the raw materials were imported.

The bulk of the oils are imported as crude vegetable oils. Some of the margarine makers, particularly the small ones, buy some refined cottonseed oil and also hardened cottonseed or soybean oil. Some makers buy these supplies direct from the States and others buy from Canadian refineries.

Most of the techniques and formulas in Canadian plants have been taken from the United States. Thus Canadian margarine is of the United States rather than the European type which contains large proportions of whale oil, peanut oil and palm oil. As long as these formulas are used, oil from the United States can be expected to play an important role in Canadian production. However, it is still too early to arrive at a real measure of the effect on United States exports. A straight statistical comparison of Canadian vegetable oil imports during the first 6 months of 1949 with the first 6 months of 1948 is of little value. It is true that Canada's imports of cottonseed oil, soybean oil, coconut oil and vegetable oils not classified, amounting to some $5.5 million for the first 6 months this year, were higher than for the corresponding period a year ago when margarine was not being manufactured. At the same time, imports were less of palm oil, peanut oil, copra and

---

1/ Based on a report by Francis A. Flood, Agricultural Attache, Ottawa. A more detailed report by Mr. Flood will appear in an early issue of the monthly magazine, Foreign Agriculture, published by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

soybeans. But during 1948, fats and oils imports were under international allocations, and oils had to be bought from sources which were not necessarily the most economical. With allocations off this year, Canada has turned to the United States for the bulk of its supplies to meet all import requirements. Accordingly, a changed pattern of imports was in the making, quite independent of the influence from the advent of margarine.

Future imports from the United States for margarine raw materials will depend on the Canadian oilseed production program. Soybeans are one of the few sources of edible oils for margarine manufacture that can be grown profitably in Canada and growers have been encouraged to expand acreage in order to minimize reliance on imported oils. A record crop of 2 million bushels is estimated for this year, compared with 1.8 million in 1948 and a prewar average of only 270,000 bushels. Presumably the soybean oil requirements for margarine could soon be met from Canadian production, depending on future crops and the proportion of soybean oil used in the formulas.

CANADA'S OILSEED PRODUCTION DECREASES SHARPLY

Canada's 1949 oilseed production totals only 24 percent of last year's output, according to information from the American Embassy, Ottawa.

The decrease was due to the drastic cut in flaxseed production from 17.6 million bushels in 1948 to 2.3 million (2nd official estimate) this year. Acreage fell from 1.9 million acres in 1948 to 300,000 in 1949 as the result of lifting the flaxseed support price, the excessive carry-over from last season (10.7 million bushels as of July 31, 1949), and the uncertain foreign market. Dry weather reduced the yield per acre to 7.0 bushels compared with 9.4 last year.

The guaranteed price for the 1948-49 crop was $4.00 per bushel until July 31, when the support was withdrawn and an open market price established. The October 5 free market price was $3.75 on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, September 26, 1949, for more detailed information concerning Canadian flaxseed).

It is likely that flaxseed production in Canada will be low again next year.

Canada's expected record soybean crop of 2.0 million bushels, compared with 1.8 million in 1948 and an average for the past 7 years of about 1.0 million, is the result of the prospective record yield of 23 bushels per acre, since the acreage, estimated at 87,800, is somewhat less than last year's 94,000 acres.

There is no support price for soybeans. Processors are paying about $2.35 per bushel for soybeans for crushing.

Canada imports for crushing several times the quantity of soybeans produced domestically. Since an entirely new use for soybean oil has developed in Canada with the advent of margarine this year, the demand in the future may be somewhat greater than in the past. Consequently, acreage is expected to increase next year.

Various oils are highly interchangeable in the making of margarine, and the formulas depend to a large extent on the availability. Much more cottonseed, the principal margarine ingredient, has been imported this year than last.

Sunflower seed production is unofficially estimated at 16,500 short tons from around 60,000 acres compared with 11,200 tons and 28,000 acres in 1948. The crop suffered from a severe attack of caterpillars and from drought.

There is no guaranteed price for sunflower seed, but the Cooperative Vegetable Oils Ltd., of Altona, Manitoba is offering 4 cents per pound. There is only one plant processing the seed. The oil is used principally in shortening and salad oils. The Altona plant is doubling its capacity and is also building a 150,000-bushel elevator and adding a refinery. This enlargement is an indication that acreage and production are expected to continue to increase.

Rapeseed production in Saskatchewan, where all commercial output is grown, amounted to approximately 10,000 tons from 20,000 acres (unofficial figures) against 42,800 tons from 80,000 acres in 1948.

Last year the support price for rapeseed was 6 cents per pound. The price has not been set for this year, but it is expected to be considerably lower in spite of the greatly reduced production. In Canada rapeseed is used largely for non-edible purposes.

The Prairie View Vegetable Oil Company at Moose Jaw is now buying rapeseed at 2 cents per pound for the initial payment and will not make an additional payment until much later in the season. About 1,500 to 2,000 tons of the 1949 crop had been delivered by the first of October.

This prevailing low price will probably result in low acreage again next year, particularly if the yield in 1949 does not turn out to be as high as is now estimated.

Mustard seed, in Alberta, is well below last year, according to unofficial reports. Production is expected to amount to only 1,200 tons from 4,000 acres (contracted) compared with 10,500 tons from 30,000 acres in 1948.

The contract price for the 1949 crop is reported to be 6.75 cents per pound.

IRAN'S OILSEED OUTPUT SHOWS SLIGHT INCREASE

Iran's total production of oilseeds in 1949 is roughly forecast at 93,800 short tons compared with about 93,400 in 1948, according to information from the American Embassy, Tehran. Vegetable oil production in each of the same years is estimated at approximately 10,700 tons.

Cottonseed contributed 37,500 tons in 1949 and 44,000 tons in 1948. Considerable encouragement to increase the area planted to cotton is being given by the Seven Year Plan and by the Cotton Company which was organized under the direction of the Industrial and Mining Bank. It is probable that next year will see a considerable increase in acreage and that expansion will continue for several years.

Poppyseed production, which fell off to an estimated 4,800 tons in 1947 after the Government had prohibited the production and use of opium, came back strongly in 1948 with 11,000 tons, and the forecast of production in 1949 is around 16,500 tons. This recent recovery is due to the failure of the Government to enforce the prohibition against opium and also to the fact that poppyseed has been more profitable to produce than alternative crops.

IRAN: Vegetable oilseed and oil production, 1948 and 1949 1/

Oilseed	Seed production		Quantity crushed		Oil production	
	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Cottonseed...	44,100	37,500	25,300	22,000	3,300	2,900
Sesame seed..	11,800	12,100	2,900	3,300	1,200	1,400
Olives.......	14,300	15,400	13,200	12,100	1,600	1,300
Castor beans.	7,700	8,300	7,700	8,300	3,200	3,400
Poppy seed...	11,000	16,500	2,700	3,300	900	1,100
Flaxseed.....	1,100	1,200	1,000	1,200	300	400
Others.......	3,400	2,800	1,300	1,300	200	200
Total...	93,400	93,800	54,100	51,500	10,700	10,700

1/ Data for 1948 are rough estimates and for 1949 are forecasts.

American Embassy, Tehran.

Olive production in 1949 is forecast at 15,400 tons against an estimated 14,300 tons last year. Comparable figures for sesame seed are 12,100 and 11,800 tons respectively, for flaxseed 1,200 and 1,100 tons, and for castor beans 8,300 and 7,700 tons.

A total of 6,160 tons of oilseeds was exported between March 21, 1948 and March 20, 1949 compared with about 19,800 for 1947-48 and 8,600 for 1946-47. Exports during 1948-49 included very little cottonseed as the Government prohibited exportation after May 21, 1948. Exports of vegetable oils were negligible, and there were no appreciable imports of either vegetable oilseeds or oils.

SWEDEN EXPECTS TO ACHIEVE SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN LINSEED OIL

Sweden's largest linseed oil plant, closed since the outbreak of the war, will reopen shortly to facilitate processing the 1949 record flaxseed crop of between 2 and 2.4 million bushels, according to a Swedish report submitted by the American Embassy, Stockholm. With an average oil content of 35 percent, this crop will yield from 19,500 to 23,500 short tons of linseed oil, which is believed sufficient to meet 1950 requirements in Sweden.

Prior to the war, Sweden met most of its linseed oil requirements from flaxseed imports, mainly from Argentina. Annual imports of seed during 1936-38 averaged 1,748,000 bushels and raw linseed oil averaged 1,540 tons. Annual requirements during this period thus approximated 18,600 tons of oil. In 1947, official statistics show a near normal supply of 18,200 tons of oil with about 6,000 tons from domestic flaxseed and 12,200 tons from net imports of seed and oil. Supplies last year were far below normal at 12,900 tons. Production rose to 11,000 tons of oil from domestic flaxseed but only 1,900 tons (oil equivalent) were imported.

SWISS IMPORT CONTROLS ON FATS AND OILS ABROGATED

Previous measures relating to the controlled imports of fats and oils into Switzerland were abrogated by an ordinance issued by the Swiss Federal Department of Public Economy on September 28, 1949. This means that the prewar status--freedom from most import controls on fats and oils--has been resumed (see Foreign Crops and Markets, August 15, 1949).

Although the Swiss Grain and Feed Cooperative Society has a monopoly on imports of certain edible fats and oils, private firms may purchase these products abroad without restriction and have them shipped to the Swiss border. At this point customs clearance permits issued by the Swiss Grain and Feed Cooperative Society must be presented, but this is a mere formality. The quota system has been abandoned so there are no restrictions as to the quantities which may be imported.

Lard import controls under Tariff Position 95 were abrogated effective October 1. Licensed meat importers may import lard upon obtaining an import permit from the Division of Agriculture. The granting of such permits may be subject to certain conditions inasmuch as quotas are in effect for the purpose of maintaining approximately the prewar ratio between indigenous production and imports.

Requests for customs clearance authorizations for edible fats and oils must be submitted to the Office of the Swiss Association of Importers of Foodstuffs which, after passing on them, relays them to the Cooperative Society for actual authorization.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

ARGENTINE WHEAT ACREAGE LARGER; CORN, OATS PLANTINGS SMALLER

Total grain acreage seeded in Argentina in 1949 for harvest in 1949-50 is believed to be about the same as in 1948-49, according to the Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Buenos Aires. Though little change appears to have been made in the total acreage, some shifts in individual grain plantings are indicated. An increase of about 10 percent is estimated in wheat sowings, largely at the expense of corn and oats.

The increased wheat seedings, tentatively placed at 14.8 million acres, would fall about 15 percent short of the Government's goal of 17.3 million acres, as announced June 1. Favorable weather in the main wheat zone during the seeding period encouraged some increase as did the Government's distribution of seed.

Failure to meet the goal is attributed to a number of factors. The lateness of the call for the expansion, along with the absence of any specific price assurance, was considered a major deterrant. The short supply of labor and machinery was also an important factor. Unfavorable weather in marginal wheat zones also reduced the possibilities for expansion.

Condition of the growing wheat crop is generally good, with the crop reported at 90 to 105 percent of normal at the end of September, throughout most of the wheat zone. Earlier frost damage to the crop in Cordoba and Santa Fe has been remedied by favorable rains and temperatures. General rains also relieved drought and insect infestation in La Pampa and Buenos Aires. In mid-October only minor localized drought or frost damage was reported.

Barley acreage is now estimated to be the same as last year's area of about 2 million acres, despite earlier expectation of an increase. Drought in southwestern Buenos Aires and La Pampa curtailed intended late seedings in those Provinces. Some frost damage is reported by growers of malting barley, but the crop is reported in generally very good condition following recent rains.

Rye seedings are estimated to be about the same as the 4.4 million acres estimated for a year ago. Interest in rye as a grain crop has slackened, but its principal use as winter pasture tends to stabilize acreage, as is the case with oats. Acreage seeded to oats, however, is believed to be 10-15 percent below the estimate of 3.5 million acres seeded last year. Large surplus stocks on hand and dissatisfaction with prices largely account for the decline.

Corn planting now in progress under exceptionally favorable moisture and soil conditions is, nevertheless, expected to be about 10 percent below the 1948-49 acreage of about 7.8 million acres. Some diversion of corn land to wheat and sunflowerseed is attributed to dissatisfaction with the price level and to labor and machinery shortages. The price for the 1949-50 crop has been announced at $1.21 per bushel, or only slightly above last year's price to producers.

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT OUTLOOK FAVORABLE

Prospects point to another good wheat crop in Australia, with some forecasts placing the outturn only slightly below last year's near-record harvest of 190 million bushels. The outlook in the eastern States improved greatly following rains during the first half of September. In South Australia and Western Australia conditions were less favorable, and additional rainfall was still needed at last report.

Following the rains, New South Wales, the largest producing State, has had excellent growing conditions except in the south western districts where rainfall has been light. Some unofficial forecasts have placed the crop at about 70 million bushels, compared with 64.7 million bushels last year. Victoria, the next largest producer, reports generally good condition with the exception of some northern districts that were still in need of rains in October.

The crop in Queensland improved after the rains of early September. The outturn of 10 to 11 million bushels expected there, however, would be somewhat below the record crop of 14 million bushels in that State last year. Prospects have deteriorated considerably in South Australia, as rains there in early September were insufficient to overcome the bad effects of the previous dry spell. In Western Australia also additional rains were needed to ensure average yields.

BRITISH HONDURAS INCREASES RICE ACREAGE 40 PERCENT

Approximately 3,260 acres of rice were planted in British Honduras during 1948, a 40 percent increase over the 2,460 acres planted in 1947. From this acreage an estimated 111,000 bushels of rough rice were produced. Arrangements were made for the Department of Agriculture to undertake the marketing of most of the 1948 rice crop.

British Honduras continues to import a large part of its rice supply. In 1948 almost 2,500,000 pounds (milled basis) were imported with 620,000 pounds coming from the United States and 1,700,000 pounds from Honduras.

Two areas were studied for developing new rice growing projects. One in the Toledo District and the other in the Belize District. It was found that effective water control measures would be necessary before any development could take place.

IRAN'S RICE PRODUCTION REMAINS STEADY

The 1949 rice production of Iran will be about 18,000,000 bushels, according to a forecast by the Ministry of Agriculture just before harvest. This compares with 17,000,000 bushels in 1948, 16,000,000 in 1947, and the peak production of 21,000,000 bushels in 1946. The acreage has varied little in the past several years. It is estimated that about 544,000 acres will be harvested in 1949 with a yield of about 33.1 bushels per acre, which is the average for recent years.

Due to the low demand for exports and increased consumption of rice following the government's encouragement of greater consumption within the country, exports for 1948 amounted to only 7 million pounds in contrast to 35 million in 1947, 128 million in 1946 and 89 million in 1945. The Soviet Union consistently took nearly all of Iran's rice exports until 1945-46 when Iran and other countries began taking about half of the total. During the past year, as Iran conducted less and less business with the Soviet Union, rice exports to that country fell to about 2,600 pounds, all of which was shipped before the middle of February.

GUATEMALA'S RICE PRODUCTION BALANCES CONSUMPTION

During the current year Guatemala is not expected to have any significant export or import trade in rice. Production for 1949-50 is estimated at 615,000 bushels of rough rice from 17,500 acres. Planted acreage showed a slight increase over 1948-49, with a trend toward mechanized rice growing. Reduced plantings on the part of small growers were more than offset by increased acreage on large mechanized farms.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, and the U.S. gulf-port averages

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1949	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound
Alexandria		Kantar			
Ashmouni, Good	10-27	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	68.00	39.42
Ashmouni, F.G.F.	"	"	"	59.30	34.38
Karnak, Good	"	"	"	72.85	42.23
Karnak, F.G.F.	"	"	"	(not	quoted)
Bombay		Candy			
Jarila, Fine	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	1/ 620.00	16.46
Broach Vijay, Fine	"	"	"	1/ 690.00	18.32
Karachi		Maund			
4F Punjab, S.G., Fine	10-26	82.28 lbs.	"	67.00	24.57
289F Sind, S.G., Fine	"	"	"	70.00	25.67
289F Punjab, S.G., Fine	"	"	"	75.50	27.68
Buenos Aires		Metric ton			
Type B	10-27	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	1/4000.00 2/	37.55
Lima		Sp. quintal			
Tanguis, Type 5		101.4 lbs.	Sol		
Pima, Type 1		"	"		
Recife		Arroba			
Mata, Type 4	10-27	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	(not	available)
Sertao, Type 5	"	"	"	215.00	35.37
Sao Paulo					
Sao Paulo, Type 5	"	"	"	195.00	32.08
Torreon		Sp. quintal			
Middling, 15/16"	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	207.00	23.62
Houston-Galveston-New Orleans av. Mid. 15/16"	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	29.18

Quotations of foreign markets reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Nominal.

2/ Omitted from last week's table: Argentina, October 21, 1949, in pesos per metric ton with U. S. cents in parentheses, Type B, 4000.00 nominal (37.55).

FRENCH COTTON INDUSTRY FACES UNCERTAIN OUTLOOK

The French cotton industry faces a rather uncertain year with effects of devaluation, dollar shortages, and the extent of ECA financing as yet undetermined.

Cotton consumption in France has been reported at 1,060,000 bales (480 pounds net) or about the same level of the past two seasons but still only 90 percent of the prewar average (1934-38). Although cotton consumption at the start of the season (beginning August 1, 1948) was well above the previous season, shortages of raw cotton and cuts in power caused a drop in consumption in the latter part of 1948. However, with the arrival of increased supplies, largely under ECA financing, consumption showed a marked improvement from March onward and in the second quarter of 1949 reached 100,000 bales per month which was equal to the prewar average. However, in view of the expected difficulties in maintaining imports it is doubtful that cotton consumption can be sustained at the levels of last spring.

France has submitted a program requesting ECA financing of 785,000 bales of United States cotton in the 1949-50 season, but it is doubtful this amount will be granted. Since total ECA assistance to be granted France is appreciably lower than the amount requested, purchases of United States cotton may be reduced accordingly. There appears to be little chance, at this time, of increasing imports of other growths sufficiently to compensate for any such reduction.

The French Colonies can supply only about 12 percent of the French cotton. Egypt, which normally supplies 15 to 20 percent of French raw cotton requirements, is the only major exporter to the French market whose currency was devalued to any considerable extent. The 30.5 percent devaluation of the Egyptian pound has been largely offset by the upward movement of Egyptian cotton prices and the lesser devaluation of the French franc. Consequently, imports during the present season may not exceed the 1948-49 imports of 1,080,000 bales. This would be 120,000 bales short of estimated requirements of 1,200,000 bales.

The total carry-over on August 1, 1949, amounted to 318,000 bales or just over 3-months' supply at current rate of consumption. The French textile industry produces a variety of goods and must keep a wide range of various qualities of cotton on hand to fill specialized requirements. Three months' supply is near the minimum stock required for normal operation of the French textile industry. It seems probable therefore that consumption in the 1949-50 season will be limited by the amount of cotton France can import.

The United States for many years has been France's principal source of raw cotton. Due, however, to the dollar shortage imports of United States cotton declined after the war and reached a low point of only 228,500 bales in the 1947-48 season. With the help of ECA financing the United States regained its normal prewar position in the French market and supplied 715,000 bales or about two-thirds of total French imports in the 1948-49 season.

A major adjustment in the value of the French franc was made in 1948. The recent devaluation was effected through the establishment of a single "free" market rate for all transactions replacing the "multiple" exchange system established January 26, 1948, and modified October 18, 1948. The extent of this devaluation will, therefore, depend on the action of the "free" franc in the market. Recently it has been quoted in relation to the United States dollar at about 22 percent below the commercial rate prevailing during the period of multiple exchanges,

France must receive at least 75 percent of its imports from countries that have not devalued their currencies. The devaluation of the franc will undoubtedly increase the difficulties in financing cotton imports. In addition to these difficulties there looms over the industry the prospect of electric power cuts as a result of this year's drought. In an attempt to avoid any drastic reduction in power supply, the industry is pointing out that reduced production may lead to increased prices for cotton goods. Nevertheless it is doubtful that cotton consumption in France can be raised in 1949-50 above the level of 1,100,000 bales that has prevailed in the past 3 seasons.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY AND SUPPLIES

USE OF PESTICIDES INCREASING IN VENEZUELA

Insects annually destroy a large part of Venezuela's inadequate harvests, according to the American Embassy at Caracas. Estimated losses of a few major crops for the single year 1947 from weevils, worms, and many other kinds of insects, are listed below:

Crop	Harvest	Loss
	Tons	Tons
Corn	240,000	55,000
Beans and peas	36,000	11,000
Rice	27,000	5,200
Coffee	40,000	400

Losses also occur in other crops such as cotton, tobacco, sugarcane, peanuts, bananas, and fresh vegetables.

The use of pest control products is estimated to have increased from 300 tons in 1947 to 600 tons in 1949. Venezuela's potential use of pesticides has been estimated at from 1,000 to 1,200 tons, including use for household pests and sanitation. With the establishment of an airplane dusting and spraying service, the application of agricultural insecticides and herbicides may be expected to increase in the 1950 crop year. Applications for insect control usually approximate 4 to 6 pounds of dust per acre and the cost of application about half a dollar per acre.

Newspapers in Venezuela have been emphasizing the need for using insecticides and there is definitely a possibility of developing a larger market for all types of pest-control products. Thus far the most common formula for pest control has been DDT and kerosene.

LIMITED USE OF FARM MACHINERY IN EGYPT

Although most farming in Egypt is done by hand methods, much of the cultivated area of 5,950,000 acres produces two or three crops a year where irrigation is available. For this reason the area of crops each year amounts to about 9,340,000 acres, according to the American Embassy at Cairo.

The agricultural land in the Nile Delta is criss-crossed with large canals which distribute the river water to smaller irrigation canals and ditches. These canals and ditches make the use of large agricultural units practically impossible. In spite of this, the use of tractor-drawn plows or cultivators is fairly common, although few other tractor-drawn or self-powered units are used. In the plowing season tractors cross small irrigation ditches which are then reformed after the plowing season is over.

In northern Egypt, deep plowing is not practiced because of the occurrence of salt. On the other hand, deep plowing is found in southern Egypt, particularly in the sugar area. Owing to the high clay content of most of Egypt's cultivable land, cultivators must be extremely sturdy.

Few harrows or rollers are used in Egypt. The planting of crops such as wheat is done by hand after merely plowing, flooding and replowing the land. No attempt is made to create a seed bed. Drills have been tried successfully, but the cheapness and plentiful supply of agricultural labor discourage investment in such implements.

Most harvesting in Egypt, particularly of grain crops, is done with hand sickles. Harvesting machines do not operate very successfully. Egyptian crops such as wheat and barley stand extremely high and produce a large amount of straw which is valuable as a summer feed for cattle and other animals. The cutting is almost a pulling-up process, being done at ground level.

Combines and harvesters in the United States operate with about 20 percent loss of straw, since they are not built to handle as much straw as Egyptian conditions produce. There is a great deal of clogging and resultant loss of time.

As the average land holding is very small, individual sales of agricultural machinery are decidedly limited. Cooperative buying has recently appeared, but is rare. Large land owners normally rent to an extensive number of small farmers. Sometimes the land owner does the plowing for the renters with tractor-drawn plows or cultivators, but all harvesting is done usually by the individual tenants and their families.

It has been reported that American-made threshers do not produce the grading which is necessary to satisfy Egyptians, owing to the method of grain buying and selling here. United States threshers, are reported unable to cope with the large amount of straw, which is said to result from the use of large quantities of nitrate fertilizer.

Modern agricultural machinery is not produced in Egypt, although some simpler types of implements such as plows, shovels, scythes, and sickles, are made locally.

LITTLE USE OF PESTICIDES IN IRAN

DDT is the only new organic pest-control product consumed in any appreciable quantity in Iran, according to the American Embassy in Tehran. Such products as benzene, hexachloride, dinitro orthocresol, 2,4-D, and ANTU are just now being introduced, and their consumption is measured in pounds rather than in tons. The utilization of the new pest control products, with the exception of DDT, is developing very slowly.

NEED FOR TRACTORS IN WESTERN INDIA INCREASING

The Bombay Provincial Government is the largest owner and operator of farm tractors in western India, according to the American Consulate General in Bombay. It now has 114 heavy crawler-type tractors of 45 or more horsepower. Recently an order was placed for 50 light Czechoslovakian tractors which are expected to arrive before the end of the year.

Before devaluation of the rupee, the Bombay Provincial Government was planning to buy an additional 80 heavy tractors from the United States, but now orders for American tractors have been suspended for an indefinite period. Government officials hope, however, that they will be able to buy American tractors some time in the future. They believe that heavy tractors of the type needed to reclaim and clear farm land can be purchased only in the United States.

The Central Provinces Government owns only 10 tractors which are used for plowing cultivators' fields on a contract basis. In the northern part of the Central Provinces tractors from the Central Tractor Organization of the Government of India are being used to reclain land from a grass known locally as "Kans". Officials of the Central Provinces Government claim that their Government cannot afford to own tractors for such work. The Director of Agriculture stated, however, that presently there is a demand by individual landowners for at least 200 tractors in the Central Provinces. Many of these landowners would be willing to plow their neighbor's fields if the Government would provide assistance in obtaining tractors from abroad.